Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 SIL-01 LAB-04 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 EB-08 COME-00 /049 W

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O R 111314Z FEB 77 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5135 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY ROME

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IO FOR CARROLL AND PALMER

PASS LABOR FOR HOROWITZ, QUACKENBUSH, AVERY & LINSENMAYER

PASS COMMERCE FOR UPTON

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB, ILO

SUBJECT: ILO: NEW DIRECTOR FOR TURIN CENTER

REF: (A) GENEVA 9819; (B) GENEVA 9725

1. SUMMARY: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD IS EXPECTED TO APPOINT RAYMOND MILNE AS DIRECTOR OF THE TURIN CENTER. THIS RAISES THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AMERICAN REPLACING MILNE AS CHIEF OF THE TRAINING DEPARTMENT AT ILO. SEE ACTION REQUESTED IN PARA THREE BELOW. END SUMMARY

2. AN ILO STAFF MEMBER TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE THAT BLANCHARD WILL SEND MILNE (WHO IS NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL) BACK TO THE TURIN CENTER AS DIRECTOR. MILNE HAD BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTING DIRECTOR UNTIL LAST SPRING. AFTER ERNST WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR, MILNE CAME TO GENEVA TO HEAD THE ILO TRAINING DEPRTMENT. ERNST HAS RECOVERED FROM A HEART ATTACK LAST FALL BUT IS UNABLE TO PERFORM THE STRENUOUS WORK DEMANDED OF THE TURIN CENTER DIRECTOR, ERNST, WITH THE BACKING OF THE FRG, REPORTEDLY HAS TURNED DOWN BLANCHARD'S OFFER TO

HEAD THE ILO OFFICE IN BONN, AND BLANCHARD HAS AGREED TO FIND A POSITION FOR HIM IN GENEVA.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: BECAUSE TRAINING IS AN AREA IN WHICH THE U.S. HAS BROAD EXPERIENCE AND A GOODLY NUMBER OF QUALIFIED PEOPLE, WE SUGGEST WASHINGTON AGENCIES NOMINATE HIGHLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THIS D-2 POSITION ASAP. THE U.S. CLAIM IS STRONG BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF U.S. NATIONALS OCCUPYING DEPARTMENT CHIEF POSITIONS HAS DECLINED IN RECENT YEARS.

4. COMMENT: AS WASHINGTON AWARE, ERNST WAS APPOINTED TO THE TURIN CENTER LARGELY BECAKIJARM TWISTING BY THE FRG, INCLUDING WITHHOLDING OF ITS FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION WHILE BLANCHARD MADE UP HIS MIND. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT BLANCHARD MIGHT FIND IT CONVENIENT TO ASSIGN ERNST AS CHIEF OF THE MARITIME WORKERS BRANCH IN THE SECTORAL ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT (REF B). CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA00987
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770049-0887

Format: TEL

From: GENEVA Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770251/aaaabssq.tel

Line Count: 82 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 09f8f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 GENEVA 9819, 77 GENEVA 9725

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 08-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3345786 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ILO: NEW DIRECTOR FOR TURIN CENTER TAGS: ELAB, SZ, ILO, (MILNE, RAYMOND), (BLANCHARD)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/09f8f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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